UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/526
7 May 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 6 MAY 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that I have decided to appoint Mr. Carl Bildt (Sweden) and Mr. Eduard Kukan (Slovakia) as Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Balkans. You will find attached the text of their mandate (see annex). I expect Mr. Bildt and Mr. Kukan to assume their duties immediately.

I should be grateful if you would bring this decision to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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Annex

[Original: English]

Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Balkans

The Special Envoys will assist the Secretary-General in pursuing efforts in the region consistent with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations relating to the restoration of peace and security and the establishment of conditions conducive to the voluntary return in safety of refugees and displaced persons to their homes. Specifically, they will:

(a) Maintain continuous contacts with all parties concerned, including the G8, at an appropriate level;

(b) Facilitate a lasting political solution to the crisis as well as interim arrangements to that effect through diplomacy in coordination with all concerned;

(c) Endeavour to ensure that such arrangements or such a solution should be on the basis of agreement by all concerned;

(d) Help to coordinate the efforts of the United Nations system as a whole in order to ensure coherence and avoidance of duplication, particularly in the implementation phase;

(e) Report to the Secretary-General on relevant developments;

(f) Undertake any special assignments which the Secretary-General may decide to entrust to them.